



Southport Elementary School is Making it Happen!



WE ARE Southport Elementary, located in Perry Township on the south side of Indianapolis, IN. Perry Township Schools serve approximately 16,000 students within their 17 schools.

OUR STUDENTS & FAMILIES Southport Elementary serves just over 600 students. Approximately 85% of our students qualify for Free and Reduced lunch. 56% of our students are English Learners. A large percentage of our English Learners are refugees from Burma.

OUR TEACHERS Southport Elementary has 34 Teachers. Our teachers receive weekly professional development (Cluster) within the TAP structure. The TAP Evaluation best practices are embedded within the strategy being rolled out. All of our general education teachers are also trained in the Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol (SIOP).

To hear more about our story click on:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K7laiTpsqY>

OUR PROMISING PRACTICE Our teachers engage in weekly professional development (cluster) meetings led by master and mentor teachers in which they provide direct instruction to teachers on a selected building wide strategy that will target an identified student need. Each teacher will receive scheduled follow up support that same week in the form of a master or mentor teacher observing, team teaching, or model teaching the chunk of the strategy the staff learned in cluster that week. Our teachers then reflect on the student work outcomes of that strategy implementation for that week in their IGP (Individual Growth Plan). Within the IGP teachers will also reflect on their individual growth area and how they progressed with it that week. This individual growth area is chosen by the teacher and is specific to an area on the instructional rubric that they are focused on growing their proficiency in. They will then be provided feedback and coaching from the Master teacher, mentor teachers, or administrators supporting them. Note: Since implementation of the TAP Model our student achievement was impacted in the following ways:

2013-2014 ISTEP+ Language Arts achievement

- Overall school results was 84.2% passing
- EL achievement rose 20% in the course of three years
- Sp. Ed. Achievement tied Gen Ed. Results

2013-2014 ISTEP Math achievement

- EL achievement rose 20% in the course of three years
- Special Ed. 82%
- 34.9% Pass +

OUR STEPS Administrators lead weekly Leadership team cluster meetings to grow Master and Mentor teachers. Master and Mentor teachers lead cluster meetings weekly where they train staff on a field tested student thinking strategy. Weekly coaching and follow up is provided to each teacher to address both student and teacher need. Each selected strategy is broken up into chunks. Each strategy cycle goes for approximately 8-12 weeks.

"I like working alongside teachers and motivating them the same way I felt motivated with my mentor and master teachers."-Heather Smigielski, Mentor teacher/ former Career Teacher

"As a more experienced teacher, sometimes you want to fall back into your old ways in which you are comfortable with doing. With TAP you are pushed to not be afraid to try something new."-Laura Williams, Career Teacher